GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6941
ANSWERED ON:13.05.2002
SECURITY OF TAJ
MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item under caption `Uchchatam Nayayalaye ne Taj ki Suraksha ka Khaka manga` appearing in `Hindustan` (Hindi edition) dated April 10, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to entrust the security of Taj to the Government agencies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the type of the danger being posed to the security of the Taj about which the Supreme Court has asked for the details?

Answer

MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b),(c), (d)&(e) The Uttar Pradesh Government had received an E-mail message threatening to destroy the Taj Mahal.The Supreme Court of India has subsequently issued instructions to the Central Government to submit the detailed contingency plan for the security of the Taj Mahal. In compliance with the directions of the Supreme Court of India, the security and safety of the Taj Mahal has been further intensified by deploying additional force of Central Industrial Security Force with effect from 1st May, 2002.